

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 ACDA-05 OMB-01 CPR-01

OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 /085 W

----- 095663

O R 141220Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3351

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS AND
CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGOV, PINS, NI

SUBJECT: OBASANJO NAMED NEW HEAD OF FMG

REF: LAGOS 1882

1. AT 1225 HOURS LOCAL SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL ANNOUNCED
"TRAGIC DEATH" OF FORMER HEAD OF STATE GENERAL MURTALA MUHAMMED.
STATEMENT SAID HE WAS ASSASSINATED YESTERDAY MORNING BY LT. COL.
DIMKA AND SMALL BAND OF DISSIDENT OFFICERS WHO NOW UNDER ARREST.
MUHAMMED FUNERAL IS SCHEDULED FOR TODAY IN KANO. SEVEN
DAYS OF NATIONALMOURNING HAVE BEEN DECREED; ALL FLAGS TO BE
FLOWN AT HALF MAST.

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2. SUM FURTHER ANNOUNCED THAT LT. GENERAL

O. OBASANJO HAD BEEN UNANIMOUSLY CHOSEN BY SMC AS NEW HEAD OF FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES. FORMER COMMISSIONER TRANSPORT LT. COL. YAR A'DUA HAS BEEN NAMED NEW CHIEF OF STAFF SUPREME HEADQUARTERS AND PROMOTED TO BRIGADIER.

3. OBASANJO TO MAKE NATIONWIDE BROADCAST THIS EVENING AT 2100 HOURS LOCAL.

4. RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SENDING PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO NEW HEAD OF STATE. IN VIEW FMG'S REACTION TO "UNSIGNED "PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION OVER ANGOLAN POLICY (AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE SEND PERSONAL EMMISARIES TO DELIVER SIGNED LETTERS) SUGGEST SIGNED ORIGINAL BE DELIVERED TO NIGERIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND COMMERCIAL CABLE BE SENT DIRECTLY TO FMG, DODAN BARRACKS, LAGOS, WITH INFO COPY TO EMBASSY.

EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAGOS01883
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760057-0489
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760248/aaaabpma.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LAGOS 1882
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OBASANJO NAMED NEW HEAD OF FMG
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, CDES, NI, (OBASANJO, OLUSEGUN), (DIMKA), (MUHOMMED MURTULA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006